

Oregon Water Conditions Report



October 7th, 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

Thus far, [two Oregon counties](#) have received [Executive Orders](#) issuing state drought declarations under ORS 536.

According to the [US Drought Monitor](#), over 61% of Oregon is experiencing moderate (D1) to severe (D2) drought conditions. Over the last two weeks, severe drought conditions have been removed from Harney County with drought coverage elsewhere in the state remaining unchanged.

September precipitation was well below to just below normal for much of the state with well below normal precipitation in portions of central and southwestern Oregon. Across much of southeastern Oregon, September precipitation was above normal. [Over the last two weeks](#), precipitation was below normal statewide.

Temperatures in September were above normal for most of the state with portions of western Oregon being closer to normal. Temperatures [over the last two weeks](#) were above normal for much of the state, especially in south-central and parts of eastern Oregon. In parts western and northcentral Oregon, temperatures were just above normal with small portions of western Oregon experiencing slightly below normal temperatures.

[Recent soil moisture indicators](#) show a slight decrease in soil moisture across most of the state, especially in southwestern Oregon. Additionally, there was a slight increase in soil moisture in northwestern Oregon.

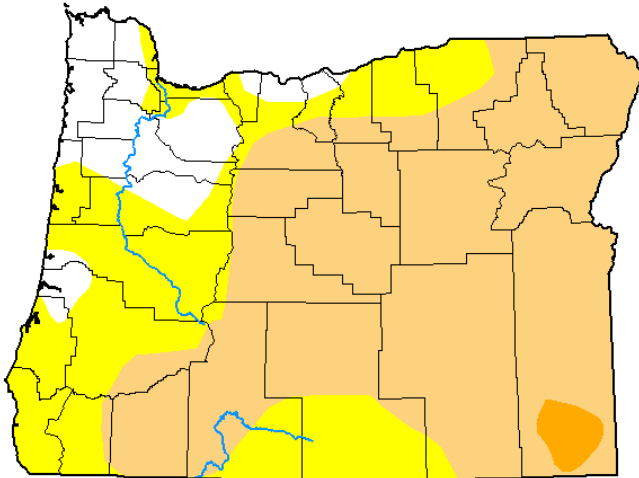
The [seasonal climate outlook](#) indicates probabilities leaning towards above normal precipitation for most of the state with southern portions of the state having equal chances of above or below normal precipitation. The outlook also indicates probabilities leaning towards above normal temperatures for southeastern portions of the state and equal chances of above or below normal temperatures for the rest of the state.

September streamflows varied across much of the state and ranged from well below normal to above normal. Much of western, central, and northeastern Oregon recorded below normal streamflows. In parts of eastern, north-central, and southwestern Oregon, streamflows were near to above normal. Streamflows over the water year were near to above normal for most of the state with below normal streamflows in northeastern Oregon.

Reservoir storage contents in many basins continue to measure near to above average. However, projects in the Deschutes, Powder, Rogue, and Umatilla basins are measuring below average. See [USBR](#) (including [Klamath](#)) and [USACE](#) teacup diagrams for more information.

U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

October 1, 2024
(Released Thursday, Oct. 3, 2024)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	10.56	89.44	61.05	1.36	0.00	0.00
Last Week 09-24-2024	10.56	89.44	61.05	1.36	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 07-02-2024	54.44	45.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2024	47.04	52.96	18.85	3.12	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	24.13	75.87	54.18	27.06	6.40	0.00
One Year Ago 10-03-2023	24.13	75.87	53.41	25.01	4.32	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

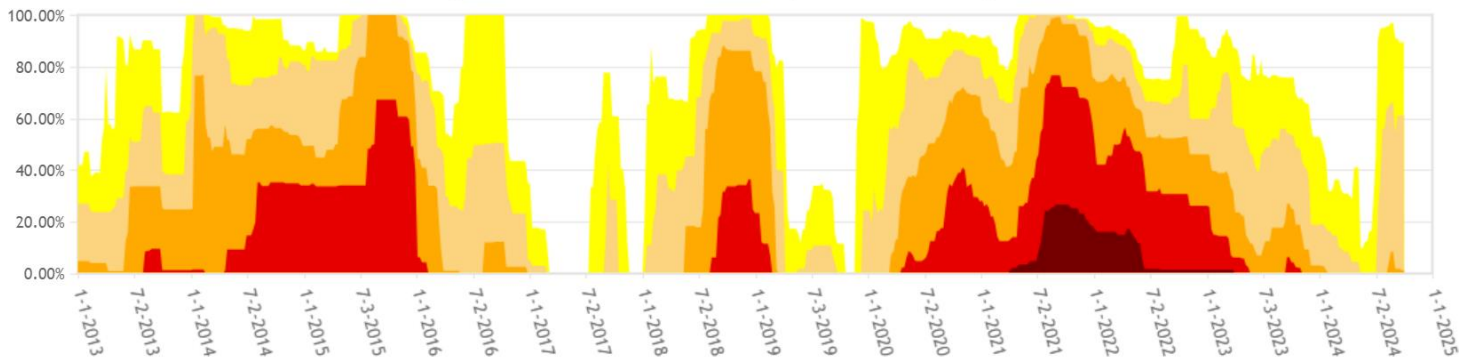
Author:

Richard Tinker
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Oregon Percent Area in U.S. Drought Monitor Categories

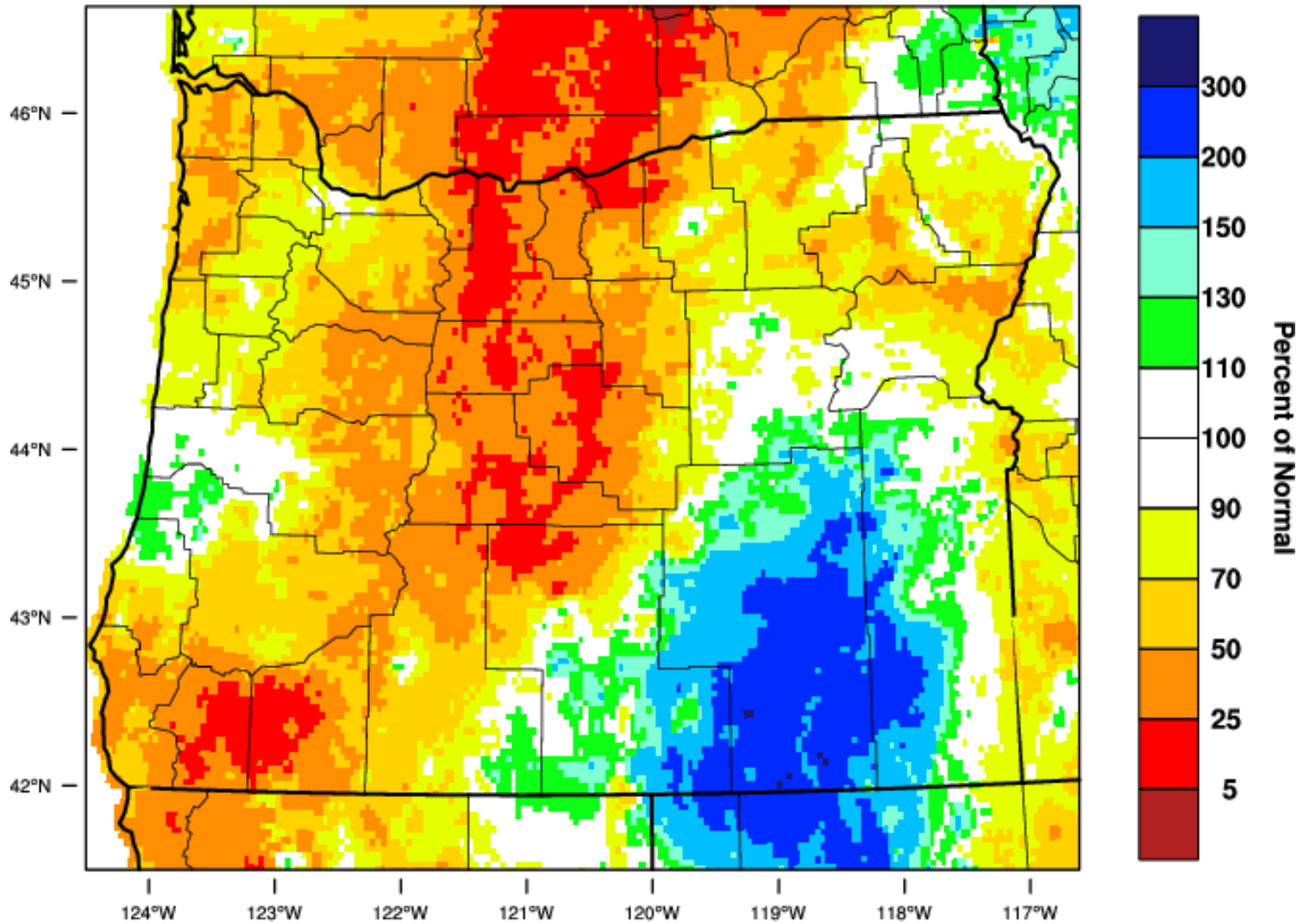


From the U.S. Drought Monitor website, <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DmData/TimeSeries.aspx>, 10-7-2024



Oregon - Precipitation

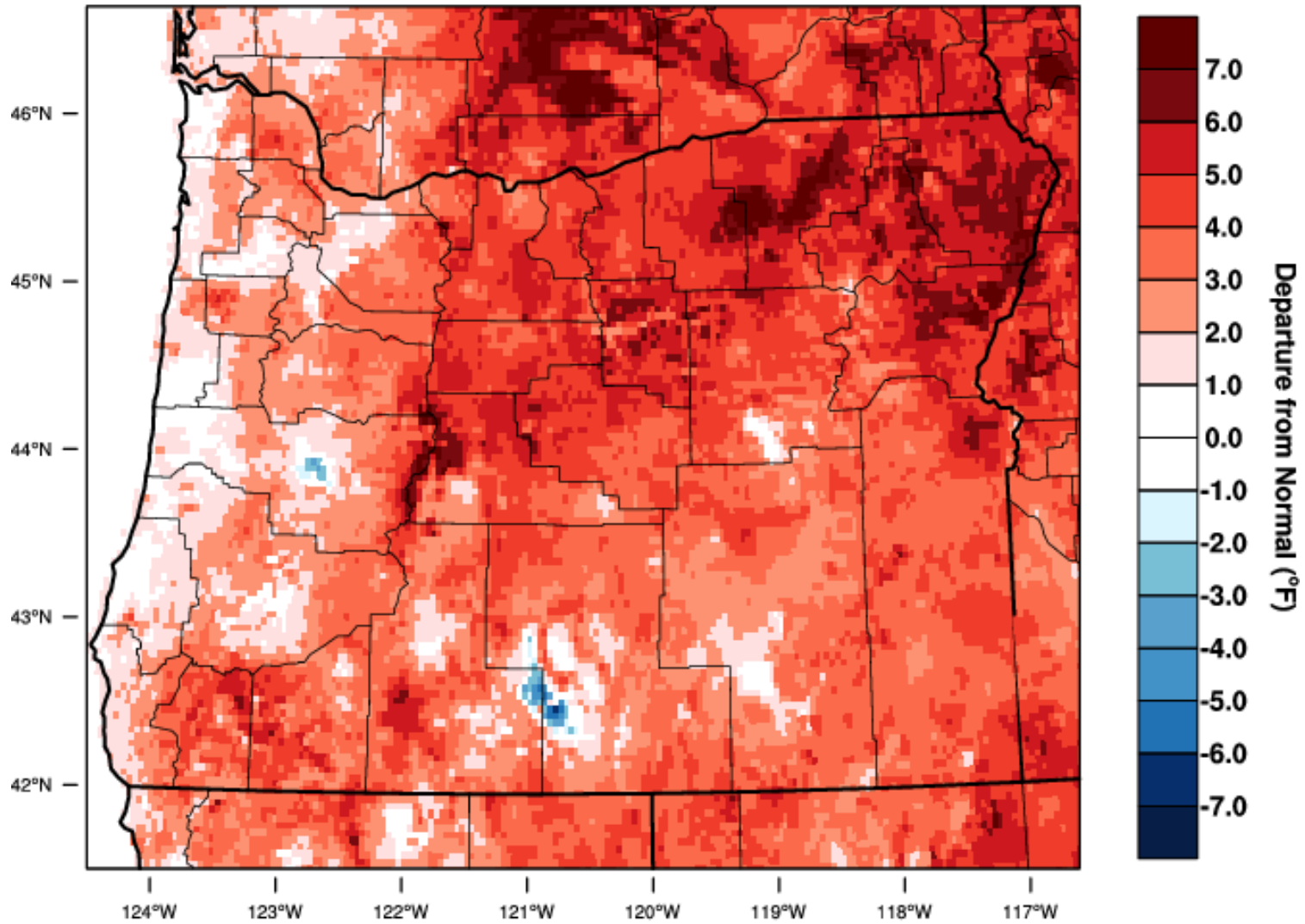
September 2024 Percent of 1981-2010 Normal



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 5 OCT 2024

Oregon - Mean Temperature

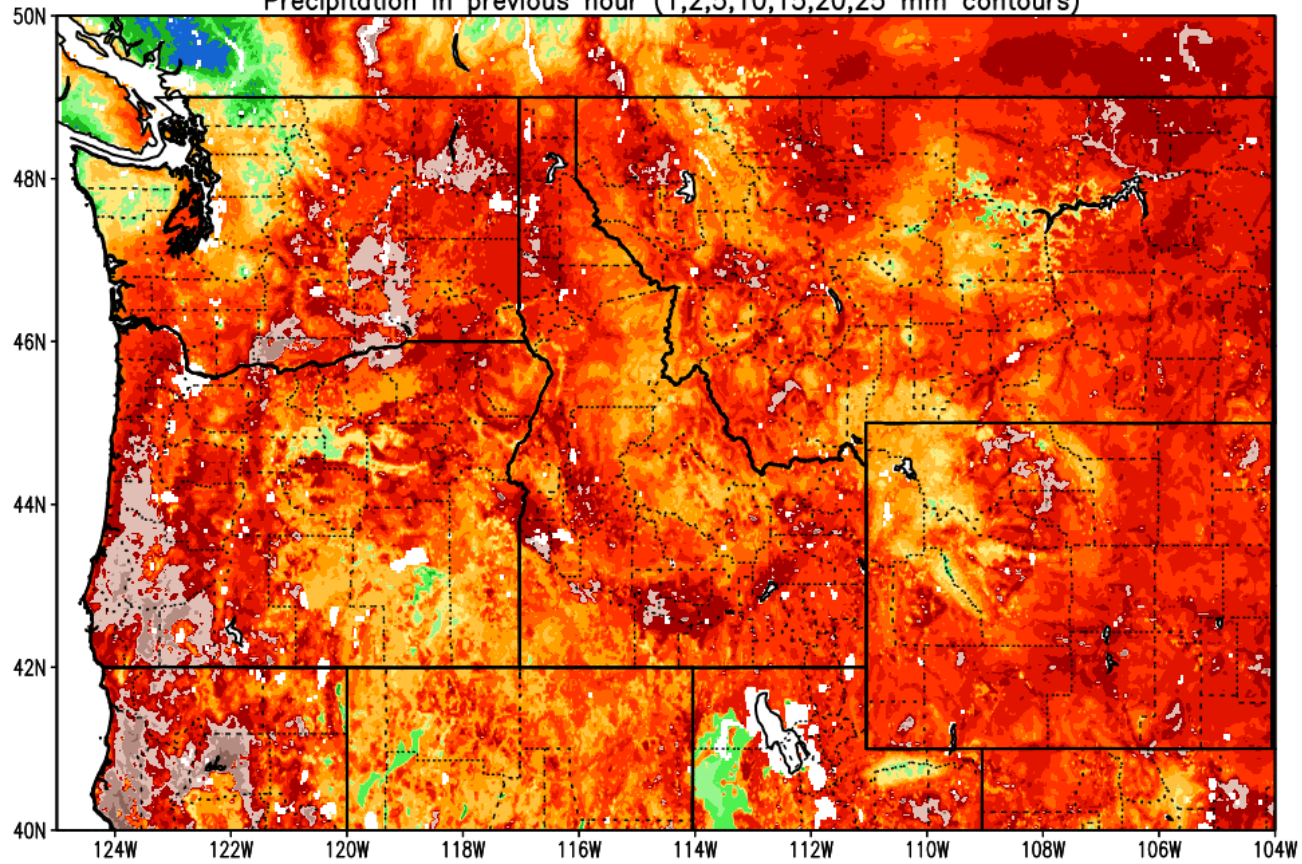
September 2024 Departure from 1981-2010 Normal



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 5 OCT 2024

Column-Integrated Relative Soil Moisture (available water; %) valid 00z 07 Oct 2024

Precipitation in previous hour (1,2,5,10,15,20,25 mm contours)

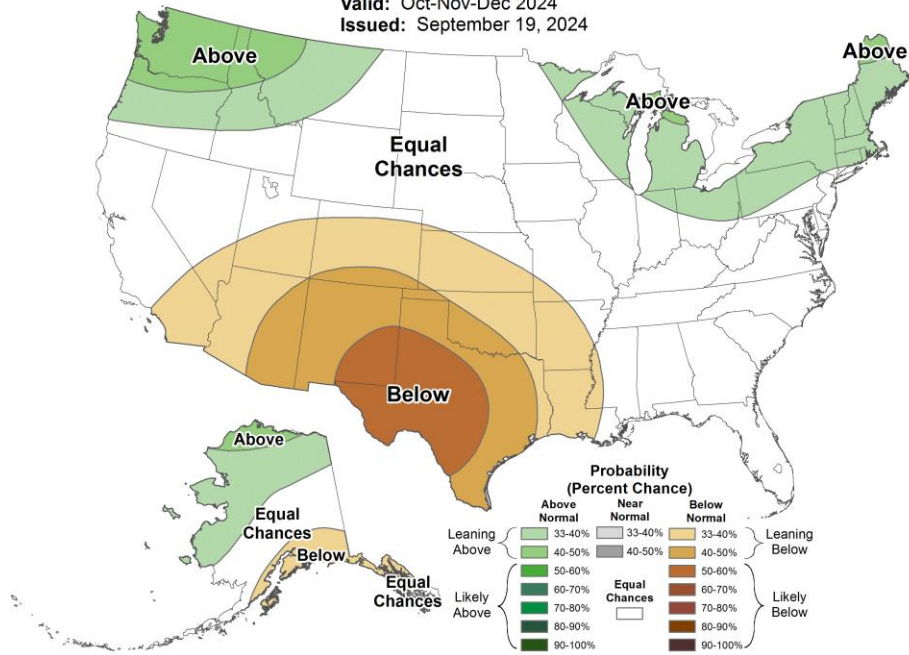


NOTE
Experimental



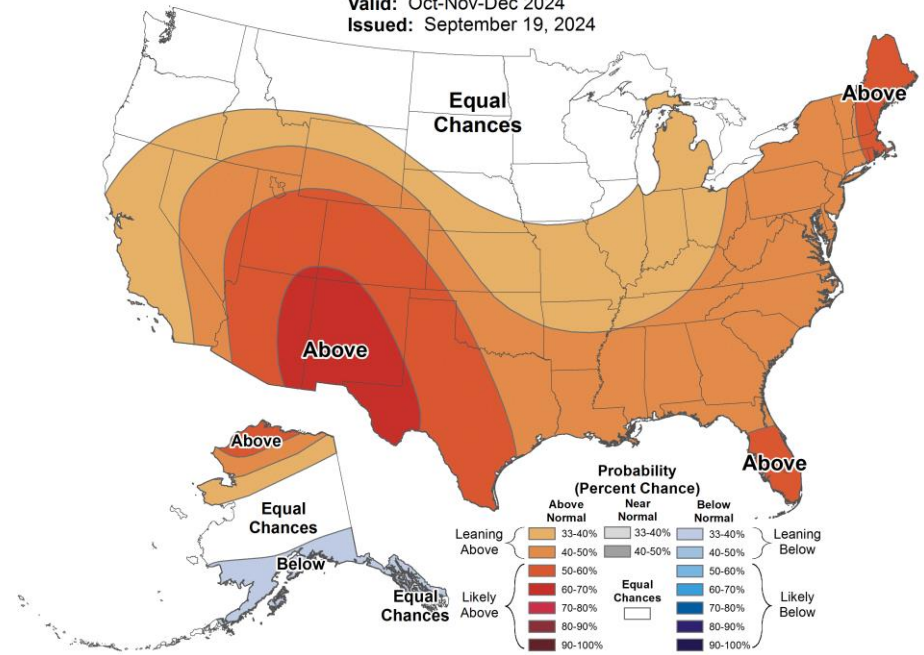
Seasonal Precipitation Outlook

Valid: Oct-Nov-Dec 2024
 Issued: September 19, 2024

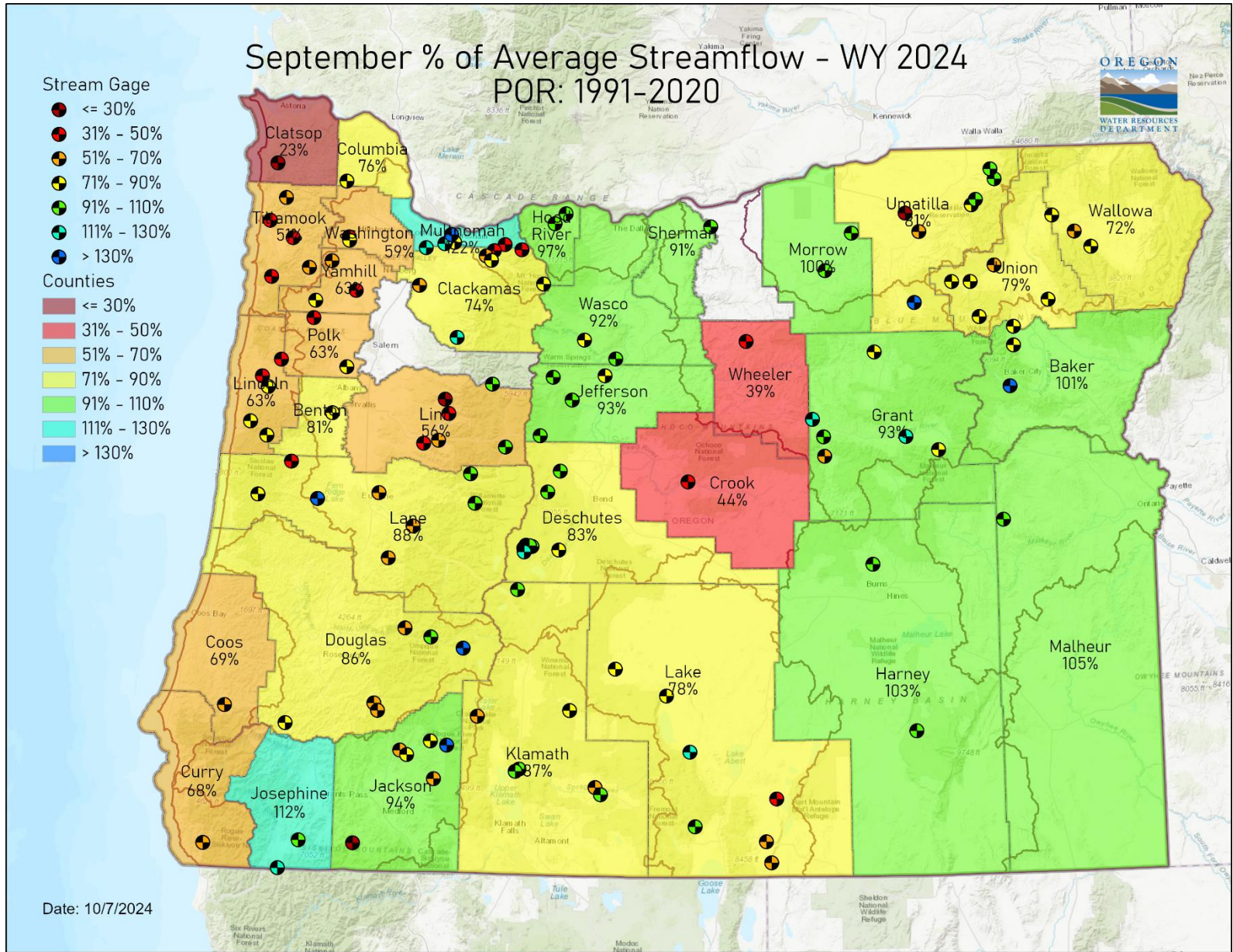


Seasonal Temperature Outlook

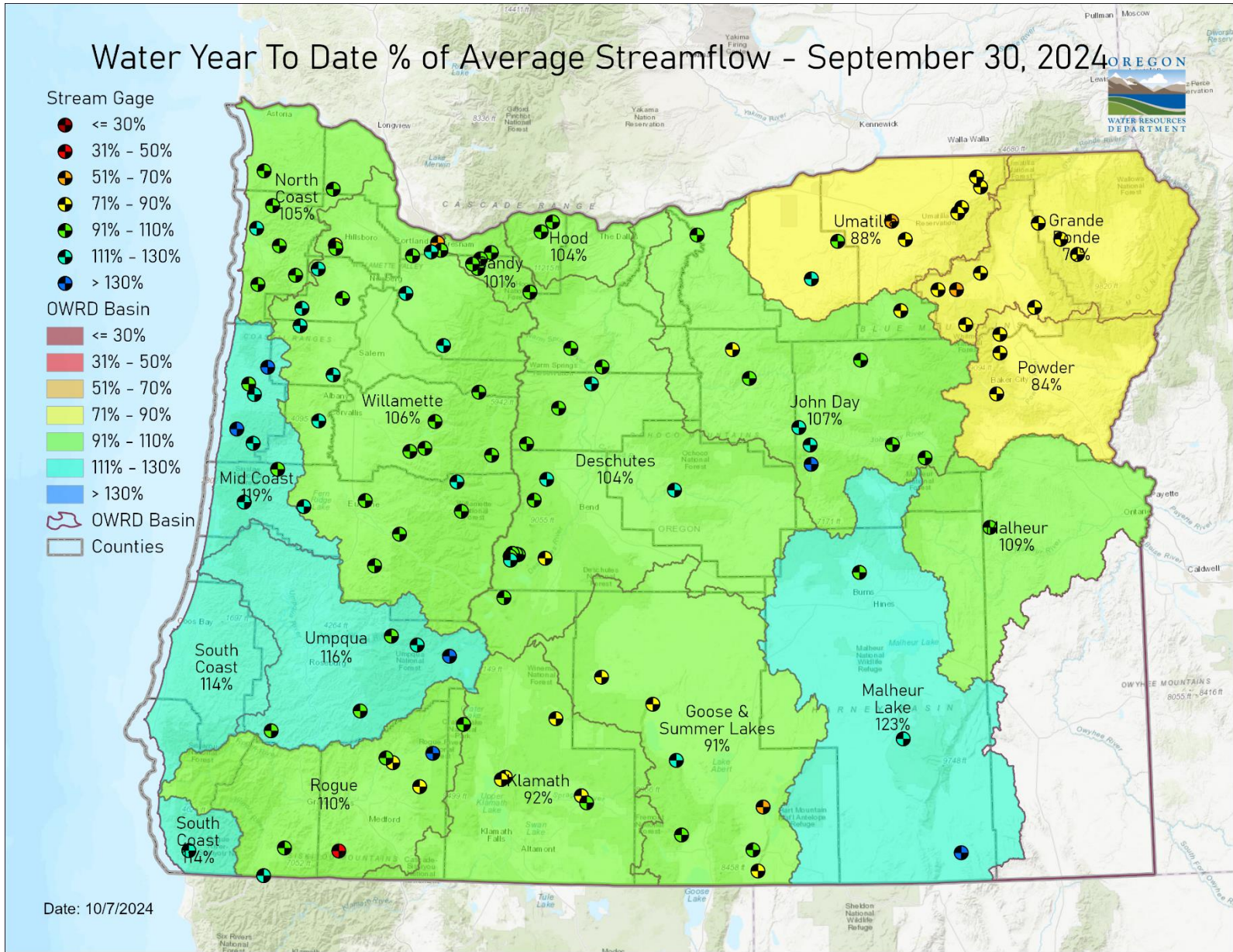
Valid: Oct-Nov-Dec 2024
 Issued: September 19, 2024



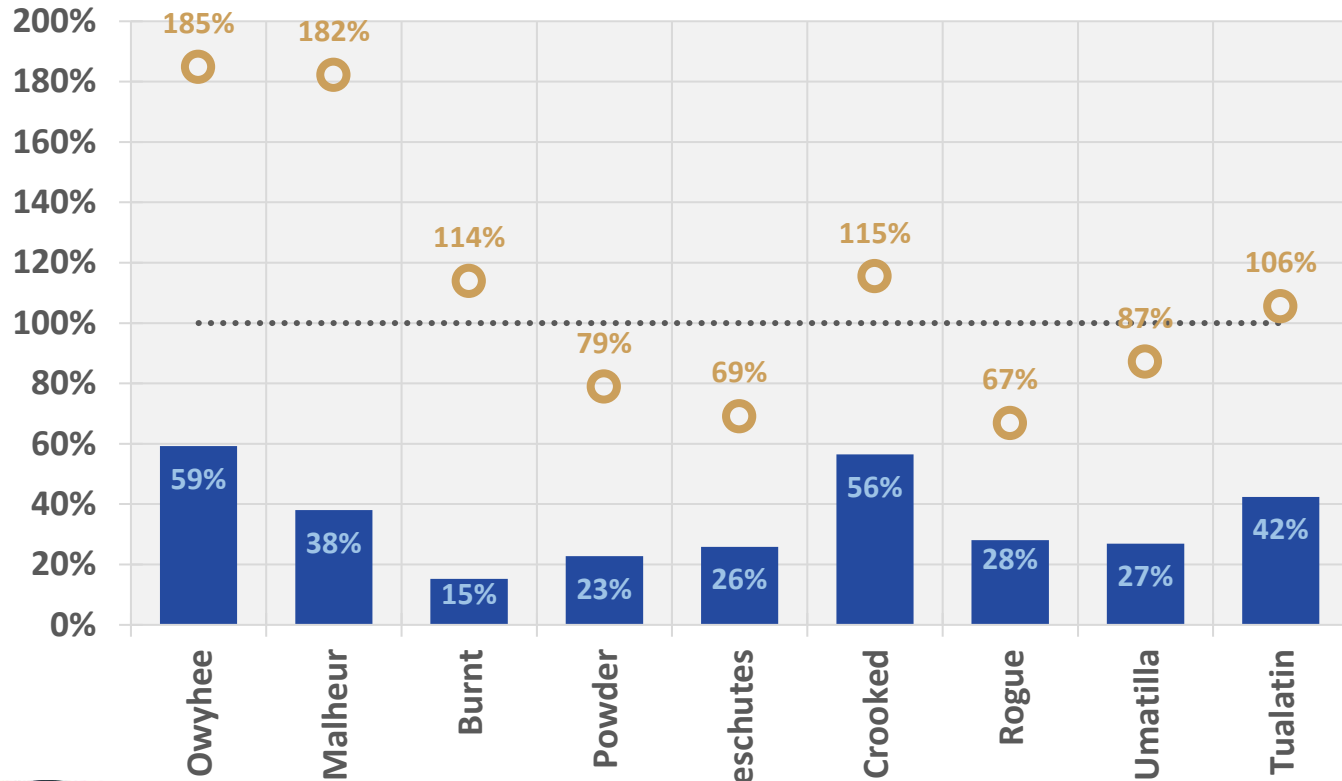
STREAMFLOW
SEPTEMBER



STREAMFLOW
WATER YEAR



October 6 Reservoir Storage



BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

■ Percent Full

● Percent of Average

RESOURCES/REFERENCES

Please visit [Oregon Water Resources Department's drought information page](#) to learn about current drought conditions, assistance programs, and potential drought tools.

If you are interested in submitting local drought-related conditions and impacts, please visit the [drought impacts toolkit](#) to learn more. [Click here](#) to visit the map of condition monitoring observer reports.

Released every Thursday, the [US Drought Monitor](#) provides a weekly assessment of drought conditions. The USDM provides a [network infographic](#) which depicts the network of observers who gather and report information about conditions and drought impacts.

The [WestWide Drought Tracker](#) uses data from [PRISM](#) to provide easy access to fine-scale drought monitoring and climate products, such as the figures depicting climate conditions within this report.

The National Weather Service's [Climate Prediction Center](#) offers [weekly](#), [monthly](#), and [seasonal](#) climate outlooks illustrating the probabilities of temperatures and precipitation.

The [Regional Climate Centers](#) (RCC) working with NOAA partners, deliver climate services at national, regional, and state levels. Climate [anomaly maps of Oregon](#) are updated daily at around noon PST.

NASA's [Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment](#) (GRACE) provide satellite-based observations of soil moisture conditions that are useful as drought indicators, helpful in describing current wet or dry soil conditions.

USGS [Water Watch](#) provides maps of real-time and average streamflow conditions at USGS sites throughout the state.

Reservoir storage "teacup" diagrams are offered by both the [US Bureau of Reclamation](#) and [US Army Corps of Engineers](#). The diagrams represent the level of fill in the reservoirs as both percent full and as a ratio of volume of water currently in the reservoir to the volume of water in the reservoir when it is full.

Oregon wildfire information can be found through [InciWeb](#) and the Oregon Department of Forestry's [Wildfire News](#), along with the [National Interagency Fire Center](#) which offers outlooks on the significant wildland fire potential.

Oregon Office of Emergency Management maintains a [hydrology/meteorology dashboard](#) which shows state and local drought declarations, as well as hosts many of the data sources to generate this report. Use the selection arrows at the bottom of your browser to navigate through the various sources.

US Department of Agriculture provides the [Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin](#) as a vital source of information on US and global weather, climate, and agricultural developments, along with seasonally appropriate agrometeorological charts and tables. USDA's [Drought Programs and Assistance](#) offers links to programs and resources to help those struggling with persistent drought.